

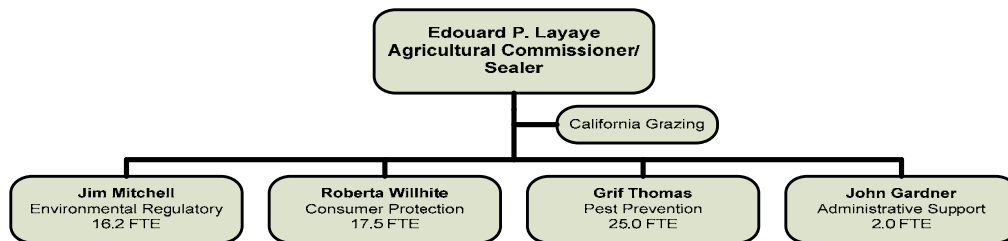
AGRICULTURE, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Edouard P. Layaye

I. MISSION STATEMENT

The Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures protects the environment, agricultural industry, businesses and consumers of this state and county through regulation and satisfies its customers by providing services that promote the health, safety, well being, and quality of life of its residents according to the County Charter, general laws, and the will of the customers it serves.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



III. DESCRIPTION OF MAJOR SERVICES

The Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures protects the environment, public health, worker safety and the welfare of the public by enforcing state and local agricultural and consumer protection laws. The department enforces plant quarantines, detects and eradicates unwanted foreign pests and regulates pesticide use, the agricultural industry and all business transactions based on units of measures such as weight or volume. Additional duties include, inspecting eggs, produce and nursery stock, controlling vegetation along state and county right-of-ways and flood control channels, and manufacturing rodent baits for sale to the general public. The department also administers the California Grazing budget which funds rangeland improvements on federal land within the county.

The Environmental Regulatory Division regulates pesticide use, manufactures rodent baits, controls vegetation along right-of-ways, and regulates apiaries and the removal of desert native plants. Permit, registration and inspection controls on the commercial use of pesticides helps prevent serious environmental and human illness incidents resulting from the misuse of pesticides. Permits serve as California Environmental Quality Act equivalents of environmental impact reports, thus easing the burden of agricultural compliance and providing flexibility for growers. In addition, all pesticide use related complaints and illnesses are investigated to determine why the problem occurred and enforcement actions are taken to ensure compliance. Control of vegetation reduces maintenance costs and reduces fire hazards. Noxious weeds are controlled at a number of sites to prevent their spread. Public health and safety is enhanced by the appropriate placement of commercial apiaries. Rodent baits are sold at cost to the public to assist in controlling rodent-caused damage and rodent-borne diseases.

The Consumer Protection Division inspects all commercially used weighing and measuring devices, verifies price scanner accuracy and the quantity of pre-packaged goods, monitors certified farmer's markets and performs quality control inspections of eggs and produce. Consumers and businesses are protected and commerce enhanced by accurate weighing and measuring devices and the correct pricing of goods. These devices are inspected on an annual basis and whenever complaints are received. Produce and egg quality inspections protect consumers by helping ensure food safety.

The Pest Prevention Division regulates the movement of plants and plant products, monitors the county to detect foreign pests, and inspects nurseries. Export certification and prompt inspection of plant and plant product shipments facilitates the movement of foreign and domestic goods in the channels of trade and prevents the spread of pests. Interception of foreign pests in shipments enhances the quality of life of county residents by preventing environmental degradation, disruption of trade and public inconvenience resulting from quarantine restrictions.



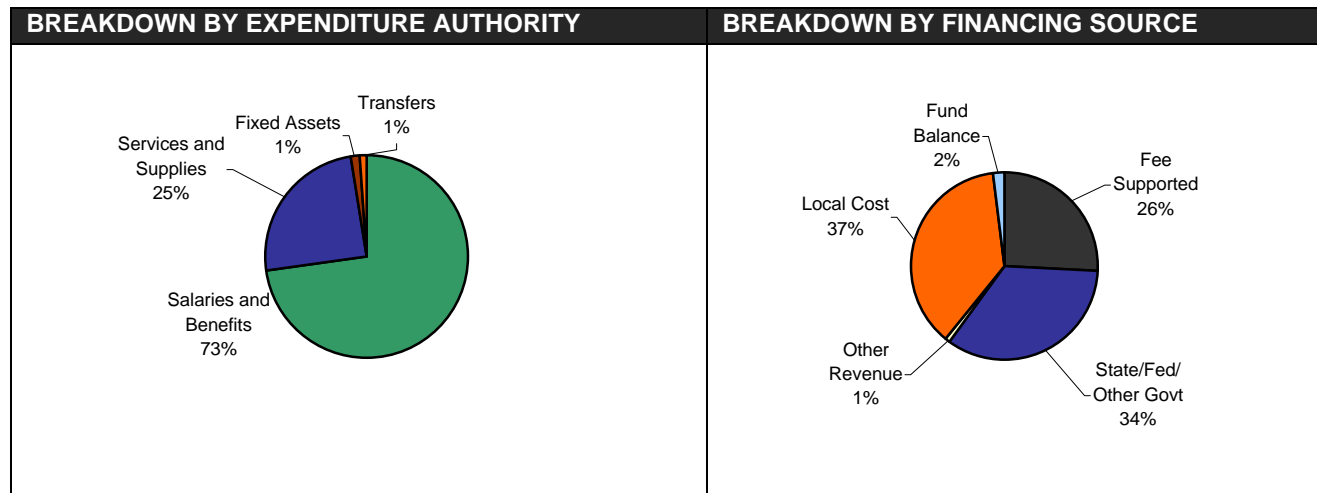
IV. 2005-06 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Performed over 137,000 insect trap servicings to detect foreign insect pests.
- Treated nearly 6,500 acres of land to prevent weeds along roads and flood channels.
- Issued over 2,500 plant health certificates for goods being exported.
- Rejected 87 shipments of plant material for quarantine violations and prevented foreign pests from entering the county on 30 shipments.
- Trained nearly 1,000 pest control technicians, growers, and others about pesticides and regulations.
- Inspected nearly 38,000 weighing and measuring devices.
- Verified the quantity of over 103,500 packages for volume/weight labeling accuracy.
- Checked 28,430 items for price accuracy.
- Levied 217 administrative penalties (principally on businesses) for violations found during inspections.

V. 2006-07 SUMMARY OF BUDGET UNITS

2006-07					
	Appropriation	Revenue	Local Cost	Fund Balance	Staffing
Agriculture/Weights and Measures	6,198,976	3,855,178	2,343,798		65.7
California Grazing	137,316	7,500		129,816	-
TOTAL	6,336,292	3,862,678	2,343,798	129,816	65.7

VI. 2006-07 BUDGET



VII. GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

GOAL 1: CONTINUE TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH, AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT BY PREVENTING PROSCRIBED FOREIGN PEST INFESTATIONS AND THE MISUSE OF PESTICIDES, IN LIGHT OF INCREASES IN COUNTY GROWTH

Objective A: Inspect all shipments of plant material for compliance with quarantines and freedom from proscribed pests that arrive in the County by common carriers, such as FedEx, airfreight carriers, trucking firms, UPS, and the US Postal Service.

Objective B: Maintain insect detection traps and servicings throughout areas specified by the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

Objective C: Monitor 4% of all structural fumigations and 10% of all restricted pesticide applications to ensure compliance with worker safety, permit conditions and general work standards regulations.

Objective D: Implement general screening of packages shipped by common carriers – such as FedEx and UPS- by the use of a dog trained to detect undesignated plant material and/or agricultural products.

Objective E: Monitor all agricultural field fumigations to ensure compliance with safety and permit standards.

MEASUREMENT	2005-06 (Actual)	2006-07 (Projected)	2006-07 (Estimated)	2007-08 (Projected)
1A. Percentage of all plant material shipments through receivers inspected.	100% (31,359)	100% (27,100)	98% (30,720)	100% (32,000)
1A. Percentage of all shipments going through state inspection stations and placed under quarantine orders that are inspected at destination.	100% (1,555)	100% (900)	100% (800)	100% (900)
1B. The average number of trap placements per month	4,881	4,712	4,925	4,850
1B. The average number of servicings conducted each month.	11,425	12,085	10,850	12,440
1C. Percentage of reported structural fumigations of commercial and residential buildings inspected.	3.4% (182)	3% (150)	4% (200)	4% (210)
1C. Percentage of restricted pesticide applications inspected.	5% (38)	7.5% (60)	8% (64)	10% (83)
1D. Number of unmarked packages of plant material intercepted by the use of a specially trained dog.	NEW	NEW	NEW	1,000
1E. Percentage of field fumigations inspected.	NEW	NEW	NEW	100%

Status

Inspection of plant shipments are being made Monday through Friday with additional inspections being performed on weekends and holidays at the request of businesses. With the exception of a problem at one shipping facility where shipments were not being held, thus resulting in a 2006-07 estimated 2% reduction of inspected shipments, the department is meeting its goal of 100% inspection of all plant shipments.

Insect detection traps have been placed as required including additional traps required by an Oriental Fruit Fly infestation in the vicinity of Rialto; however, the servicing of these traps is lagging due to staff vacancies/turnover. The projected 2007-08 level is based on the anticipated number of traps necessary to be placed when no additional traps are required for fruit fly infestations.

Estimates for the inspection of structural fumigations and restricted pesticide applications for 2006-07 exceed the level initially projected for 2006-07, as staff awareness of department goals has resulted in a slight shift of inspection activity from other pesticide applications. As a result of this, the projected goal for 2007-08 has been increased.



The use of a dog to inspect packages at common carriers is being added as an objective because significant numbers of plant material shipments are suspected of by-passing required quarantine inspections by not having their contents declared. A dog trained to detect plant material can identify these shipments and they can be inspected.

The new objective of inspecting 100% of all field fumigations is intended to provide a greater degree of public safety. Field fumigations use highly toxic pesticides in close proximity to residences and businesses and have caused adverse public health impacts in recent years. By inspecting all of these fumigations to ensure the fumigations are performed correctly, the department can improve the level of public safety.

GOAL 2: CONTINUE TO PROTECT COUNTY RESIDENTS FROM BEING OVERCHARGED FOR PURCHASED GOODS BY ENSURING ACCURACY IN THE MEASUREMENT OF COMMODITIES SOLD, AND PRICES CHARGED BY RETAIL BUSINESSES THAT UTILIZE BARCODE SCANNING EQUIPMENT, IN LIGHT OF COUNTY GROWTH.

Objective A: Inspect for accuracy all registered weighing and measuring devices in accordance with the schedule established by the California department of Food and Agriculture.

Objective B: Inspect for accuracy all registered businesses that pack commodities such as supermarkets and manufacturers.

Objective C: Inspect for accuracy all registered businesses using price scanners.

Objective D: Implement field inspection of electricity submeters at mobile home parks, apartments and other places where the serving utility company doesn't own the meter.

MEASUREMENT	2005-06 (Actual)	2006-07 (Projected)	2006-07 (Estimated)	2007-08 (Projected)
2A. Percentage of registered devices inspected.	86% (18,783)	100% (26,500)	95% (25,200)	100% (27,000)
2B. Percentage of registered packers inspected.	N/A	100% (300)	85% (280)	100% (330)
2C. Percentage of registered businesses using price scanners inspected.	N/A	100% (625)	90% (565)	100% (650)
2D. Percentage of electricity submeters field tested and found inaccurate	NEW	NEW	NEW	3.5%(75)

Status

Estimates for the inspection of registered devices, packers and businesses using price scanners for 2006-07 are below the levels initially projected for 2006-07, due to staff vacancies/turnover and increases in the number of these devices and businesses.

A new service objective to test electricity submeters in the field has been added for 2007-08. Currently, these meters are only tested when being replaced by the property owner or if a complaint has been made regarding the performance of the meter. Testing these meters in the field improves the level of compliance by detecting potential inaccuracy before the degree of inaccuracy gets large enough to be noticeable to the user of the device. This method of testing should also reduce costs to the owner of the device since they will no longer have to send the device in to the department's lab or buy replacement meters on a routine basis. All of the submeters at a site, such as a mobile home park, will be tested at the same time, resulting in a simplification of scheduling and servicing for the meter owner and for the department.

VIII. 2006-07 APPROVED ADDITIONAL GENERAL FUND FINANCING (POLICY ITEMS)

The department did not have any approved policy items for 2006-07.



IX. 2007-08 REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL GENERAL FUND FINANCING (POLICY ITEMS)

The department is not requesting any additional general fund financing for 2007-08.

X. 2007-08 PROPOSED FEE ADJUSTMENTS

The department is not requesting any proposed fee adjustments for 2007-08.

If there are questions about this business plan, please contact John Gardner, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer, at 1 800 734-9459 or (909) 387-2117.

